

# Bill Swanson for the Rehabilitation of 1754 Parker, West Village Historic District, Detroit

Bill Swanson purchased the house at 1754 Parker in Detroit’s West Village Historic District in 2002 after several years of deferred maintenance by the previous owner. According to Mr. Swanson, “the interior, though in grave disrepair, was virtually unaltered from its original 1907 design.” As part of the project, all major building systems were updated including the electrical, plumbing, and HVAC. The original wood windows were carefully repaired and painted to become fully functional. The exterior siding and trim was repaired or replaced where needed, and painted with an appropriate three-color paint scheme that helps to highlight the architectural details. Perhaps most importantly, after years of damage from water infiltration, a new asphalt shingle roof was installed to keep the interior dry. The finishing touches to the project were plaster repair and interior painting, and refinishing of the hardwood floors.

Mr. Swanson states “the restoration of 1754 Parker made a significant impact on the neighborhood. I was able to resurrect the worst house on the block. It was the house that many thought needed to be torn down, and it became an inspiration for others to begin home repairs. It is now one of the best on the street.” Bill Swanson’s rehabilitation is a testament to the results that can be achieved through the perseverance, dedication and hard work of owners of historic homes.



Before



After